

WASHINGTON STATE FIRE DEFENSE COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2008

Cowlitz # 2 Headquarters -701 Vine St. Kelso
360-578-5218

A regular meeting of the Washington State Fire Defense Committee was held on Tuesday, March 18, 2008 at Cowlitz # 2 headquarters beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Members attending the meeting were:

Bellingham Fire	Bill Boyd
Central Region	Tedd Hendershot
Lower Columbia	Dave Leitch
Northeast Region	Bill Walkup
Northwest Region	Glenn Brautaset
Olympic	Allen Knobbs
Southeast Region	Tom McDowell, Dave LaFave
EMD	Ron Wilson
South Puget Sound Region	Dan Smith
WSP-Fire Protection Bureau	Dan Johnson, Sue Carr, Esther Hernandez, Robyn Knight

Chairman Dave LaFave called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes: The minutes of the February 19th, 2008 meeting were approved as submitted.

Announcements: None

Introductions: Bill Boyd, Fire Chief of Bellingham Fire
Robyn Knight, Administrative Support, Fire Protection Bureau

Correspondence: None

Presentation: Bill Boyd, Fire Chief of Bellingham Fire Department provided a presentation on "Street of Dreams" fire in Echo Lake. He discussed the fire specifics, the action plans, who was in command, the equipment used and cost. The low key approach was the key.

Echo Lake T3 IMT deployment was predominantly a law enforcement operation

- Snohomish Co. 2 UASI command vehicles.
- 50-75 Responders
- National media interest
- Federal agency personnel did not totally understand the ICS Process

Lessons learned

- GIS critical need
- 2 logistic personnel on incidents
- Must always wear ID-Law Enforcement issue
- FBI need for secrecy
- Awareness of LE scene take over

Topics for Discussion:

(Dave LaFave) Wants to know how the type 3 teams are incorporated, the development, and how they are recognized.

(Dan Johnson) Will be discussed later.

1 # Name Change for Committee:

(Dan Johnson) Mike Matlick brought this up to reflect all hazards change.

(Glenn Brautaset) Should we ask FPPB - no real need seen by FDC?

(Dave LaFave) No desire to make a name change.

(Tedd Hendershot) Want the name change to reflect the mobilization and to make it easier to get through the legislation. Don't know what the name change would be.

(Ron Wilson) Thinks the name should have or be directed towards the fire service.

(Bill Walkup) Sees no benefit to changing the name of the committee.

(Glenn Brautaset) Agrees the change of the mobe plan name would help clarify use of the plan by fire service.

2 # “All Risk Mobe” What does it mean?

(Dave LaFave) Identify what “All Risk” means; determine what the risks are for each region. EMD has already done the assessment.

(Dan Johnson) Believes Mike is looking to ID possible needs for all incidents. What kind of event it incorporates, identify when mobes would be requested from each region. What are the risks?

(Dave LaFave) Example: Cowlitz doesn't have a HazMat team. The work had been done, but how are the resources incorporated.

(Dave LaFave) Wants to know the direction this is going.

(Dan Johnson) A conference call goes to the Chief to discuss what they want and they go from that point.

(Dave LaFave.) The mobe plan has a system whether to evaluate if it fits the criteria. If the name would be change it should be clarified on the front page of the plan (title). The name should be incorporated right on the name of the plan.

(Glenn Brautaset) Agrees that the change should be the name of the plan.

The committee feels we should follow the information and procedures in the mobe plan for approval of any Mobe (i.e. fire, flood, etc...)

4 # Unprotected lands

(Dan Johnson) Mike and Dave are working with DNR and a group about the topic. This issue is larger than wild land fire. Would like to discuss how we handle fires and the threat to homes without fire protection.

(Bill Walkup) Doesn't believe we have the authority to handle this situation.

(Dave LaFave) The caution is bigger than wild land fire. There is a lot of land that is unprotected and there is not much that can be done about it. The problem is getting bigger not smaller, and the Governor should come up with something to help make a solution. At some point we must do something to discuss or solve the problem. We know the problem exists and if you do nothing we could be just as liable.

(Glenn Brautaset) The cost should be split among the residents. They are at risk because they choose to be in an unprotected area. They should be taxed.

(Dave LaFave) Maybe the Chief could go to the Legislature to see if a bill can be passed.

(Glenn Brautaset) The county should or can be responsible for collecting portions of the money from residents and it should be organized by the county. Can develop an unprotected land account for anytime a fire breaks out.

(Dave LaFave) The statutes are very specific on what can or can't be done. I will bring this topic up at my next forum.

What about refusal to pay. What will be done if they don't pay? Put property liens on their home?

5# Regional Training (Fire Fighter 1)

(Dan Johnson) FPB wants the basic Fire Fighter 1 training to be regionalized and not send all the training to North Bend. This is a training that is still needed, but want to utilize the funds that are not being spent and not have them go back to the general fund account. Want to help smaller agencies provide training to new personnel.

(Bill Walkup) **Several topics for discussion on the agenda would be more appropriately included in the FPB report as there is not enough information for a proper discussion.**

(Dave LaFave) Feel that each region needs time to work on this topic.

6# Type 3 Team Report-NW IMT response to Street of Dreams Fire

Presentation done by Bill Boyd at the beginning of the meeting.

7# Resource typing/Available Resources through Regions

Iris system can track resources available from FEMA

(Dan Smith) Thought that someone could allocate the resources and how they are available. Just to find the link to get the information.

(Dave LaFave.) Resources should be stated in the system so that everything could be available for everyone to see, should be downloadable into Ross and available on the internet. Each jurisdiction has the authority to hold back. Needs to know who is going out on a call. Forest service would not give funding on this issue.

(Dave Levitch) Doesn't like that DNR had to have status on how many people are on a fire. Doesn't like that everything had to go through them to get permission and shouldn't have to bring other resources from other states.

(Glenn Brautaset) If money is available, each Firefighter should be given an ID and tracked. The parameters should be outlined on how it should be done (examples: state responsibility, carded, out of state responsibility).

Region #6 is developing a standard agreement that they are going to share with all fire departments.

(Dan Johnson) Will develop a form and send to Dave L for review before sending out.

#8 Credentialing & Tracking qualifications for fire service personnel

(Dan Johnson) OSFM is looking into the possibility of using IQS to track Type 3 team personnel qualifications and have the ability to use them. Maybe it will be easier for people to go from type 2 to

type 3. California is using IQS and had great success. Working with WSP IT to make sure it can be done.

(Glenn Brautaset) The challenge is the state has to develop the mnemonic code for the abbreviation for standardize codes for IQS and who would be able to hold the database. Should not include portal to portal, but should include backfill as defined in plan.

(Dave LaFave.) Feels that if another department has the data then that department should be able to transfer the data.

Reports

- (Ron Wilson) The Regional Hazmat bill died in the legislature, but will resurface next year. This was due to no funding allocated in the governor's budget. The Hammer Workshop has 20 spots that are still open for the conference. It is 16 hours of training with paid lodging and lunches. April 28th - 30th Tribal Conference in Chelan also paid training with lodging and lunches for 2 persons from each LEPC.
- 1. (Dan Johnson) Fire Protection Bureau - Provided report of Fire Mobes from 2005-2007. (cost break out by region and county and number of personnel)
 - (Dan Johnson) EMAC – Mike has made the commitment to EMD that should another EMAC request arise, OSFM will provide personnel to work as liaisons and assist as needed to ensure the process continues to move forward smoothly.

2007 After Acton Review Challenges Identified:

- Hopefully eliminate the long process and complaints of getting paid. The checks are being received within 15 days after being mailed.
 - Working on red card issue.
 - Have a Paramedic to take care of the people who get dehydrated and to have a communication spot.
 - New phone list for OSFM personnel provided.
2. (Ron Wilson) brought up the issue again about the EMAC process and the problems with payment delays. Mike Matlick had been meeting with the EMD about the process. According to EMD's AG the Mobe process cannot be used for EMAC requests, and some people are not familiar with the Mobe process.

(Dave Lafave) Mentioned that he understands Sandy Bigelow has been dealing with many upset agencies and that she is doing her best under the circumstances. Hopes everyone would understand she is simply doing her job and not trying to make this difficult situation worse.

3. DNR- Not present
4. Fire Protection Policy Board- Discussed the three objectives for the upcoming year.
5. Geographic Board- Nothing to report

6. PNWCG- Nothing to report

7. All Risk Legislation/Changes- Went forward as written. No changes expected.

Actions Items for this meeting:

None